

Spirit of Jefferson.

CHARLESTOWN, VA.

BENJAMIN F. BEALL, Editor.

Tuesday Morning, January 14, 1868.

DESPERATION.

Satisfied from the results of the recent elections that the lease of power which they now hold can only be perpetuated by the use of the means by which it was obtained—by violence and outrage—the deservative, it seems, are resolved upon playing a game of pure desperation. This is indicated by the measures recently proposed by their leaders in Congress. Not content with the abomination of the reconstruction acts as originally passed, and which, as one of their provisions, required that a majority of all the votes registered should be cast in order to the ratification of any of the Constitutions that should be submitted by any of the mongrel conventions now in session in the Southern States, it is now proposed that a simple majority of the votes cast, should they amount only to twenty, shall be sufficient to consummate their diabolical purposes. These latter are to surrender ten States, the fairest half of the nation's magnificent territorial inheritance—that on which the sun shines warmest and the winds breathe their softest breath—to the government (if such a term is not a misnomer) of a half-civilized, brutal race, who will be acting out the instincts of their nature in scattering ruin broadcast, realizing that sad picture of Goldsmith

Through all thy fields the tyrant's hand is seen,
And desolation covers all thy green.
And as if there lurks a suspicion that, even after such a crime as this shall have been consummated, there is danger that their ruthless and lawless exercise of power may be arrested by that stern honesty and integrity which has characterized a majority of the Supreme Court of the United States, it is proposed, in order to disarm that august tribunal of its wonted power to correct the evils of legislation, by the application of the test of the Constitution, that two-thirds of its members shall concur to make its decisions effective and binding. It will thus be seen that these men are prepared to sap the foundations of the government itself to compass their ignoble end of party rule.

With much of that spirit which actuated the fallen archangel they would sooner "rule in hell than serve in Heaven." But we take this desperation as one of the most favorable signs of the times. It hastens the events we most desire to occur. It makes the antagonism between right and wrong, conservatism and radicalism, complete. There can be no compromise between the opposing forces. There is no middle ground on which they can stand. Overthrow, defeat, utter annihilation of one or the other party must be the result. The elements at war with each other are as incongruous and immiscible as oil and water, or fire and water. The alternative is broadly put to the people of the country, either to expel, crush out the miserable wretches who are now eating up their subsistence and trampling on their liberties, or become a people without a country at all.

That issue we believe is about to be fully comprehended, and when it is once taken into the popular mind in its full proportions, and with all its fearful significance, the consuming fury of the aroused manhood of the nation will sweep from existence the criminals that have forced it upon them. The authors of the woes that now afflict us seem to be unconscious of the perils that surround them. They do not realize the changes in process about them. They are no longer in the midst of the heat of civil war, whose quick and fiery passions they directed in the name of patriotism and union, but really for their own base and selfish purposes. These passions have been lulled, and in the calm which succeeds the angry and desolating storm they wrought Reason has re-asserted its sway, and with patient investigation seeks the cause—the real authors of the terrible sufferings to which we have been and still are subjected. With unerring and fatal certainty the real culprits will be indicated.—They can not escape. Rocks nor mountains can hide them from the wrath in store for them. Never was armor forged strong enough or thick enough to resist the lance of justice that shall pierce and transfix them.—And yet these abettors of destruction play the implements of ruin as though the eye of neither God nor man was upon them.—Could our pity, but for a moment get the better of our sense of justice, we could almost compassionate them.

The Legislature of Maryland is now in session, and the miserable radical rumpers who have hitherto ruled and persecuted the decent people of that State, have not a single representative in either branch. Such, we predict, will be the case in West Virginia, ere many moons shall wax and wane, notwithstanding the premeditated fraud and deliberate disfranchisement of Boreman's registration. God hasten the period.

The National *Intelligencer* collects, from various sources and circumstances, the facts in relation to Hunnicutt, the Radical leader, showing "what manner of man he is,"—that he was a violent and proscriptive enemy of the blacks—that he was a voluntary "rebel" and secessionist—that he proposed at an early date the capture of Fort Monroe, &c., &c., &c. Since then he has become the "idol" of the extreme Radical party, having completely deluded the black population. But the *Intelligencer* properly adds to this sketch the remark that what power for evil this man possesses is owing entirely to some of the Radicals who now denounce him; but at the commencement of his career patronized, and encouraged him! We warned them, at the time, of the mischief they were doing.

On Friday night of the 3rd inst., a bold but unsuccessful attempt was made by some daring "professional" to enter the vault or safe, in the Banking House of Burkhardt & Son, Martinsburg.

THE WHEELING CONVENTION.

The Conservative Convention which assembled at Wheeling on the 8th inst., seems to have been largely attended, and its proceedings exhibit an earnest determination to rescue the State from the dominion of radicalism. The body was presided over, temporarily, by JOHN J. DAVIS, Esq., of Clarksburg, and permanently, by Col. B. H. SMITH, of Kanawha.

An elaborate plan of organization was adopted which cannot fail, if pursued, to bring out the full strength of the conservative party. The most encouraging information was given by the delegates of the revolution going on in the public mind throughout the whole State, and the opinion was most confidently expressed that the desperadoes who have clutched the reins of government, would be ignominiously driven from power before the end of the present year.

A memorial to the Legislature to repeal the test oath of suitors and attorneys, and rescind or modify the registration law was resolved upon.

Delegates to the National Convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice President were appointed. John W. Kennedy, Esq., of this county, was chosen one of the delegates from the State at large.

The delegation which has taken place all over the country, evincing the disgust and indignation of the people at the action of the revolutionists who have brought the country to the verge of ruin, must do its work also upon the miserable factionists who have ruled us with a rod of iron in West Virginia ever since the formation of the State. The day of their doom is not far off in the future, and when it does come the reckoning will be of such a character as to warn all tyrants of the force of that wrath which slumbers in the arms of their oppressed victims and which patiently bides the hour of their liberation to execute its will.

General Meade.

The following extracts from Southern newspapers give us in advance the estimate the South place upon Gen. Meade, who succeeds Pope. The *Macon Telegraph* says:

In Gen. Meade, we have the assurance of an officer and a gentleman to reign over us—a man who has the honor and magnanimity of a soldier, and who is too brave to oppress a fallen and peaceful foe—a patriot who will do his duty, and seek, by all lawful means, to restore the country to the Union and all the people to harmony and peace. We shall welcome him to the bosom of our people, and in their behalf pledge to him an honest desire to do what is right. His chief duties now will be to preserve the peace, in which he will have their hearty co-operation, and secure them in an honest hearing at the polls, which they have not enjoyed in the past.

To this end many important changes of subordinates will be necessary, and we have no doubt they will be promptly made. The entire registration business demands a thorough overhauling, and those who have conducted it should be brought to a speedy account. He will find frauds that are disgraceful to the civilization of the age, and which with their guilty authors, should be held up to the public gaze and reprobation.

The *Messenger* says:—
In Gen. George G. Meade, the country recognizes a gentleman and soldier of the Hancock pattern. His reputation is as stainless as Pope's is tainted. He fought us like a soldier, and has never, so far as we know, used his power to oppress or traduce.

This confidence in the new commander even before his arrival in his district will do much toward restoring confidence in the South. Gen. Meade is a true soldier, as different from the gassy Pope as night is from day. He will never use his power to oppress the unfortunate, nor will he so administer his office as to place the neck of the white man under the negro's heel. He will do his duty faithfully and fearlessly, but he will not use his power to advance party ends, and beside he will always temper justice with mercy.—To the people of the Third District he will prove an Angel of Light compared to Pope. [*Douglas Democrat.*]

Gov. Swann, in his annual message to the Maryland Legislature, makes the following reference to the extension of the W. & P. Railroad to Strasburg, which we hope will be begun early in the Spring:—

"The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company continues to make large and satisfactory returns to the Treasury. The last report of the operations and present condition of that great work shows a degree of prosperity not surpassed by any similar work in this country. During the past year, a branch of that road has been completed and opened to traffic, promising important advantages to that rich and valuable section of our State. A contract has been made within a few weeks past for a perpetual lease of the independent Branch Road from Harper's Ferry to Winchester, furnishing a most valuable connection with the Valley of Virginia. With the same line extended to Strasburg, too much importance cannot be attached to this valuable acquisition.

SENSELESS ADVISE OF A COLORED PREACHER.—Dr. J. C. Brown, a venerable colored preacher, publishes in the *Louisville Courier* a letter addressed to the freedmen of Mississippi:—

"I hear with sorrow, pain and regret that many of you have been advised to seize upon the lands of your former owners, either by force or insurrection. I now beseech you, for God's sake, to take the advice that I give, and to show to your friends identified with you in prosperity and adversity. Any man, or set of men that would encourage you to pursue such an unlawful course, surely must be your most inveterate enemy, desiring your utter extermination from the face of the earth, like unto the poor Indian, let them be whites, blacks or mulattoes. Yea, while yourselves, wives and children were suffering by fire and sword, such men would dance in sight of your miseries."

Jacob Byerly's large, new Swiss barn, near his residence on Pleasant Run, about 5 miles south of Harrisonburg, was destroyed by fire on Saturday morning week, between 1 and 2 o'clock, the fire having been first discovered about 1 o'clock. About 800 bushels of wheat, together with his hay, straw, about fifty bushels of rye, a new rockaway, straw cutty, his fast farm horse, &c., were destroyed in the barn. Loss \$4,000 or \$5,000. It was the work of an incendiary.

AN ELOQUENT APPEAL.

Hon. OREN BOWIE, the newly elected Governor of Maryland, under the new Constitution of the "re-enfranchised people of that State," was inaugurated on the 8th of January, at Annapolis, with all befitting ceremony. His address on the occasion is an admirable one, and evidences throughout the patriotic and practical statesman. In the beginning, the Governor says that he abstains from any suggestions upon State legislation because of the constitution providing that he shall not enter upon the discharge of the executive duties until the expiration of the term for which the present incumbent was elected, unless the office becomes vacant by death, resignation, &c. He then proceeds to avow briefly and comprehensively, but with great energy of expression, the views of national affairs expressed by the people of Maryland at the recent election, including the restoration of the Southern States to the Union, the control of suffrage by the States themselves, white supremacy all the country over, the cultivation of fraternal love between the States, &c.

The voice of the people in all the late elections is referred to as sustaining the course of the President in his issue with Congress. The indignity to Maryland in denying admission to a representative of the State in the United States Senate is referred to in appropriate terms, and the hope expressed that, now that impeachment has been settled, and there will be no need to prevent the new Senator from sitting in judgment upon the President, he may be permitted to take his place. The address closes with a most eloquent appeal in behalf of the South, and her disfranchised and persecuted people. The picture he has so graphically drawn of the degradation of the proud old "Mother of States" to Military District No. 1, is most beautifully expressed, and will elicit the need of commendation from every true Virginian to the "man born."

The condition of the South is now such that one would suppose, if the dictates of statesmanship did not change the policy of Congress, the impulses of common humanity would stay their hands. With little left for vengeance or malignity to wreak itself upon, or cupidity to seize, the most embittered enemies should be satisfied with the fullness of their work. Can they, without emotion of sympathy, look upon a people proverbial for its gentleness, for kindness and hospitality, for excessive endurance and great gallantry, discovered from the Union, and reduced to a state of anarchy and political despair? Can they forget the great aid of these very people, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh," in the establishment of American independence? and that since our national existence until the recent deplorable civil war, which the whole country may well ask itself if the South was alone responsible for, her heroes in war and statesmen in peace have equally with their Northern brethren exerted themselves for every star upon the national ensign that be emblematic of the position each State shall be entitled to hold as a free and independent member of the National Union?

Whist this must be the feeling of the whole North for the whole South, how much more intensified must it be with us in Maryland for our neighboring and sister State of Virginia, united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, of social intercourse, of business relations, and the proud and pleasant memories of the past? The overthrow of her white population by a black minority, led by men who are a disgrace to their race; the loss of thousands of her people and millions of her property; the severance of a third of her territory after, in her exuberant patriotism and generous greatness, she had voluntarily given to the country that immense northwestern territory out of which have been carved the States that have become the seat of empire, and which would have so humiliated and destroyed her; her degradation from the "Mother of States" to "Military District No. 1" are circumstances that we most keenly feel.

We cannot cease to remember and to partake of her pride that hers is the land of Washington, the Father of his Country, whose birth and whose burial places our citizens daily look upon; of Henry, who demanded liberty for the country or death for himself; of Jefferson, of Madison, of Marshall, of Lee, and a host of other worthies to whom we are so much indebted for our national greatness.

As Marylanders, then, we must feel a peculiar sympathy for Virginia, which we could not repress if we would, and would not if we could. As a people, we will gladly contribute out of our abundance to the wants of hers, and as a State we will bid her take heart in the sympathy and returned good sense of the nation, and we will not cease to maintain and defend her rights until they shall have been restored unimpaired.

And so with all the other States of the South. The war, professedly waged for the restoration of the Union, having successfully ended, must result in the restoration of the Union.

In this the fiat of the American people has unambiguously gone forth. Time only is needed to show to our sisters of the South that our sympathies are not alone for patriotic Poland, writhing under the iron heel of her master—for misgoverned and chafing Ireland—for hapless and valiant Crete—for the struggling and oppressed everywhere except in our own midst. Justice to them, to ourselves, to the interests of the country, will speedily assure to the Southern States all their political and territorial rights.

Let there be a position of "masterly inactivity" vowing down such instruments miscalled constitutions as may be submitted to them by their mongrel conventions of negroes and adventurers, and their proper status will ere long be restored to them by wise and just national legislation, on which alone they must rely.

National legislation must be directed not only to the restoration of the disaffected States to their proper orbits, and to the pacification of the country, but to its financial condition and necessities. The *barbarism of war* must be relieved by the return of peace.

THE BALTIMORE COFFEE TRADE.—The *Sun* says that the total imports of coffee during the past year were 280,778 bags, of which 206,926 bags came direct from Rio de Janeiro, 1,220 bags from Laguaira, 581 bags from other foreign ports, and 21,051 bags from coastwise ports. This is in the aggregate the largest import of coffee ever made into the port of Baltimore during any one year. The stock on hand at the close of the year was 25,000 bags, all Rio. In speaking of the coffee trade, the *Price Current* says:—"With the great advantages possessed here, from our railways to all points westward, north and south—relatively shorter, too, than lines to any other seaport on the Atlantic—altogether with cheaper expenses in handling, there is in these facts ample cause for still greater growth in this heavy article of our commerce."

POLITICAL BREVITIES.

—The Washington correspondent of the *Indianapolis Journal*, (Radical) says that the newest Democratic ticket mentioned for the Presidency combines the names of General Hancock and Hon. T. A. Hendricks, U. S. Senator from Indiana. The Morgantown (W. Va.) *Post* is in favor of an out-and-out soldiers' ticket: For President, Gen. Grant; For Vice President, Gen. Sherman. John Hickman is named for the Vice Presidency by the Chester county (Pa.) *Village Record*. In the National Convention of 1860, Mr. Hickman received fifty-eight votes for this office. A correspondent of the *Boston Post* suggests the Democratic party blazon on its banner the revolutionary names of Hancock and Adams as candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency. The *Ellsworth Advertiser*, a new paper just started in Kansas, expresses its choice of Daniel W. Voorhees, of Indiana, "a man we can trust" for the Presidency. Speaking of the Vice Presidency, the Madison (Wis.) *Journal* expresses a preference for Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, but thinks Governor Fenton equally trustworthy, and for some reasons more eligible as a candidate. At a fair held in Findlay, Ohio, a gold-headed cane was put up to be voted for, and presented to the most popular candidate for President, the vote stood 807 for Pencilton and 543 for Grant. The cane was presented to Mr. Pencilton at the State Convention, held on the 8th of January, by the Hancock delegation.

—According to law the term of Governor Peirpont expired on the first of January, and a good many of our exchanges are arguing therefrom that the office is vacant and should be otherwise filled. Our friends forget that "according to law" Peirpont was never Governor of Virginia, and that therefore he is never more entitled to perform the Executive functions than now. Apart from the utter futility of any attempt to remove him by process of appeal to law, we should regard such effort as unfortunate in the extreme just at the present juncture of affairs. For he could only be succeeded by some appointee of the District Commander, who would certainly make some selection from the Radical ranks. We cannot be accused of any partiality for the present incumbent, but he is at least in bad odor with the Republicans of the State, and is not, therefore, so likely to lend his aid to their machinations as would be a new man taken from the received communion of Underwood, Hawhurst and Platte. We trust that the subject will not be agitated further.

—The N. Y. *Tribune* says that "individually and collectively" Congress might be impeached every season, for "scarcely a week passes but public money is used for purposes for which there is no warrant in law or Constitution." It goes on to speak of the speeches which are published in the *Globe*, (although never delivered,) at a round cost to the Government; of the \$8,000 salary and \$5,500 for a private secretary, which Mr. Foster drew for two years, although entitled to only the salary of a Senator; of the same which Ben Wade is drawing, and of many other things not recognized by law or honesty. It also declares that a large number of the paid clerks and officers of the House have been drawing government pay whilst acting as Southern Radical missionaries under the orders of the Republican Congressional Committee. When a Radical organ finds itself compelled to expose and denounce the dishonesty of its party leaders, who can doubt that corruption in the so-called Congress has reached its utmost limit?

—The committee appointed by the late conservative convention to issue an address to the people of Georgia and the United States, have done so. The address sets forth that since the termination of the war the people have complied in good faith with all the legitimate requirements of the government, and earnestly worked for the restoration of the State to its constitutional rights in the Union.

The address enumerates the grievances suffered by the people from Congressional legislation in the enactment and enforcement of the military bills. It appeals to the people of Georgia to organize for self-protection and ceaseless opposition to negro supremacy, and to the Northern people to come to their rescue and unite with them in the patriotic effort to restore and perpetuate a constitutional government. The address is signed by Ex-Governor Johnson, Benjamin H. Hill, and three others.

—A few days after the late "election" in Fla., numbers of negroes flocked to the towns and county seats to get the rewards promised them in the "loyal leagues" for voting the Radical ticket. They are disappointed of course, and went off finally, in a very ugly mood. The following are the items of the bill of wants which one of them prepared as requested by the Radical demagogues who received his vote: "Two barrels of flour, fifty pounds coffee, fifty pounds sugar, four hundred pounds bacon, one bolt calico, one bolt domestic, half barrel molasses, one double-barreled shot-gun, one pistol." With the negroes thus cheated with false promises and the whites crushed to the earth by military power, should constitutions based on such fraud and force be permitted to stand? Certainly not; and they will not endure two years.

—A Radical member of the Un-Constitutional Convention at Richmond is very much exercised for the devising of some plan to secure justice for himself and confederates at the hands of "the rebel journals of the State." Have we not done them justice, and if not, how can we? Hunnicutt has been painted as black as ink would flow, Underwood has been characterized as a charlatan and purveyor, and others portrayed so vividly that they would be known on first sight in any Virginia community. What more can we do? If the Convention will suggest a man able to pile on the agony with more zest we will employ him with pleasure, to the end that justice may be done these fellows.

—The lying Washington *Chronicle*, in its attempt to defend the negroes against charges of violence, and to fasten all crime at the South upon the whites, alludes to the shooting of Judge Basted as an instance of rebel atrocity. It happens that the would-be assassin of the corrupt Judge was his own attorney, a Republican appointee, an iron-clad perjurer, and a bird of the very feather of Forney, Busted, and the other carrion mongers.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

THE BUILDING ASSOCIATION.—At the meeting of the directors on Saturday evening last, at their office on Main St., four shares of the capital stock were redeemed for the sum of \$745.50, being \$294.50 premium. Although this premium seems to be large, it is susceptible of demonstration, (the time when the association will be able to redeem its shares at that rate being taken into consideration,) that a lower rate of interest will actually have been paid than the same sum could be borrowed for on ordinary terms. These rates of premium, of course, shorten the time within which the shares will all be redeemed, and of course lessen the amount paid in for dues, &c. The biddings for the fund were very spirited, and some of the most substantial members of the community were competitors for it. The number of shares already taken, and on which instalments have been paid, amount to 450. The whole number limited by the charter is 1,000. Those who wish to subscribe might do well to do so early, as it is probable that all the shares will soon be taken, and, as after the first four weeks, a bonus will be charged on each share taken.

The organization of the Association was fully completed on Tuesday last by the election of the following gentlemen as Directors: A. C. Timberlake, John Burns, S. V. Yantis, John W. Grantham, David Humphreys, Benjamin Tomlinson, and Kevin Shugart.

FINE WORK.—Among the many monuments, tomb-stones, &c., erected in Edge Hill Cemetery within the past year, the most beautiful piece of art we have seen, is a large and handsome monument just erected by Messrs. DIEHL & BRO., of this place, over the graves of Samuel Wright, one of our most worthy and esteemed citizens, and his son Samuel S. Wright, a gallant soldier of the 12th Va. Cavalry. It is of pure Italian marble, and fully fourteen feet high. The first base is of granite, four feet square, upon which is a marble base; on this rests the die, which has a torse beautifully cut on each corner. On the Northwest side is a festoon of flowers, under which is the inscription of Samuel S. Wright, who fell in battle while gallantly defending his native State.—On the die is another base, upon which rests the shaft, surmounted by a handsome cap.—Altogether it is a beautiful piece of work, an ornament to Edge Hill Cemetery, and Messrs. Diehl & Bro. deserve great credit for the manner in which it is executed.

IMPROVEMENT.—The reception of a bottle of Zingari Bitters from Mr. C. E. BERLER, of Harper's Ferry, who is the agent at that point for this invaluable tonic, and who is supplying it by the quantity at a price cheaper than it can be procured elsewhere in the county, reminds us that we have heretofore failed to notice the liberal and extensive improvements he has made in his drug store. The interior of his store has been thoroughly remodeled, refitted and rejuvenated throughout. The counters, drawers, cases, &c., is the work of Messrs. Small & Heck, of this town, which is guaranty of its good taste in arrangement and excellence in execution. The painting is most beautiful, and the artist who executed the work, Mr. Conner, of Winchester, has evidenced his skill and proficiency, to the admiration of all. The jars, bottles, furniture, &c., have all been renewed, and no more handsome room or better stock for the wants of the community, can be found in the Valley. We can confidently commend our friend B. to the support of the people of the Ferry, as a Druggist of skill and experience, and a gentleman.

ISLAND MILL.—We learn that the machinery and other improvements necessary to convert the building heretofore known as the "Cotton Factory," on Herr's Island, into a mammoth flouring mill, have been so nearly put in place as to give promise of active working by the first of March. The capacity of the mill will be from five to seven hundred barrels of flour per day, and it is believed the machinery of the structure throughout will be as perfect as any similar establishment in the country. As to any other improvements on the Island projected for the Spring, we have not learned, but hope many practical and advantageous ones are in view.

CONCERT.—We are requested to announce to the ladies and gentlemen of Charlestown and vicinity, that L. LEMM, Harmonist, will give a performance on his new Harmonica, at Jefferson Hall, next Tuesday evening, the 21st inst. This will be decidedly a rich treat to the lovers of music as it is something new, and we advise all who have never heard any one perform on this instrument to go and hear him. Go one, go all!

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The following were the officers installed by Phoenix Division, Sons of Temperance, Elk Branch, at their recent festive meeting:—C. W. Curry, W. P. Jacob Moler, W. A. J. B. Osborn, R. S. A. C. Hendricks, A. R. S. H. L. Simpson, F. S. John A. Link, T. M. W. Burr, Chap. C. L. Barnhart, C. Jos. H. Maddox, A. C. H. B. Nichols, I. S. J. S. Maddox, O. S.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., so favorably known to our people in other and better days, is now on a visit to his native home. His peregrinations have been many and his "ups and downs" varied, since last he seen the school-mates and friends of his early days. We learn that he expects soon to leave for California, where his estimable brother, B. F. W., Esq., is still residing.

RECORDED.—VAN BUREN STRIDER, Esq., having resigned on the 1st inst., the office of Recorder of Jefferson county, we learn that Mr. GEO. W. CHASE has been appointed in his stead by Judge Hall. Mr. C. has been discharging, satisfactorily we believe, the duties of the office for some months' past.

Subscribe for the Spirit.

Virginia Bible Society.

Mr. Editor:—

The undersigned beg the insertion of the following communication in your paper, its object being to give publicity to an effort to distribute the Holy Scriptures throughout our town and county.

The community may not be aware of the fact that that noble institution, the Virginia Bible Society, has established in Charlestown a depository of its publications, where they are for sale at very cheap rates, as well as for distribution to all who may be unwilling, or unable to purchase the Bible. Dr. Baird, the Agent of the Virginia State Bible Society, visited Charlestown during the past summer, conferred with the clergy, and empowered them, in conjunction with a layman from each congregation, to act as a committee, to order Bibles, sell and distribute the same, and indeed, to act as a regularly organized society whose acts would be approved by him.

The committee, composed of the Rev. Messrs. Hopkins, Meador and Tongue, of the clergy, and White, Humphreys and Shugart, of the laity, met and organized. One hundred dollars' worth of Bibles and Testaments of various sizes and finish were ordered, and about half of which have been sold by the enterprising firm of Campbell & Mason, whose store was kindly offered as a depository, and who have been acting as our agents in the sale of the books.

The committee have recently ordered a much larger and finer assortment of Bibles and Testaments, and the attention of the public is respectfully invited to them, now for sale and distribution at the store of Messrs. Campbell & Mason.

The committee have also secured the co-operation of Rev. N. G. North, who will visit every family in Charlestown, and will sell or give where there is not a Bible. It is the earnest expectation of the committee to extend the same privileges to other parts of the county.

This noble effort to distribute the Word of God and his fellow-man, it speaks to us all as Christians, Philanthropists and Patriots. If there is any hope of the race collectively or separately, it is in connection with the Bible and its redeeming truths. The closest and most endearing relations of this life in their sanctity and man's highest destiny hereafter, are allied indissolubly to the Bible as God's great moral instrument to renovate and improve his creature man.

The committee will be glad to receive contributions from the friends of the Bible, and aid and comfort in word and deed, toward the dissemination of the Word of Life in our midst.

N. S. WHITE, Chairman.
D. HUMPHREYS, Secretary.
REV. A. C. HOPKINS,
REV. J. W. TONGUE,
REV. WM. H. MEADE,
R. SHUGART, Esq.,
Committee.

COUNTY ITEMS.

From the Shepherdstown Register of Saturday, we take the following:—

—The farm of Mr. Amos Janney, near Summit Point, this county, containing 313 acres, has been purchased by Messrs. Ross & Powers, of Ohio county, W. Va., for the sum of \$14,000.

—On Sunday morning of last week, Rev. J. F. Campbell, pastor of the Lutheran congregation of this place, during the past two years, delivered his valedictory sermon to a large and crowded audience.

—The congregation of the M. E. Church South, of this place, Rev. Mr. Coe, pastor, have rented Moulder's Hall which they have neatly-fitted up as a place for their future worship.

—Dr. R. P. Magruder, at present a resident of Martinsburg, has purchased the large brick dwelling on Main street in this place, belonging to Mrs. Eugenia McEndee, for the sum of \$4,000.

—At an election of the members of the I. O. O. F., of this place, held on Saturday night last, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term:—P. H. Stodole, N. G.; J. G. Miller, V. G.; C. M. Eiler, S.; J. S. P. Conley, Chaplain. This Lodge has recently added quite a number of new members and is in a prosperous condition.

—The celebrated "road case" which has for nearly two years past been postponed from time to time, between Messrs. John Wysong and Adam Showman, was at last decided by the Board of Supervisors on Monday last, in favor of John Wysong.—This case had caused considerable interest in this community, the contest being as to who owned a certain portion of a road. We learn that Mr. Showman has taken out an appeal to the Circuit Court.

—An effort is being made to reorganize Criswell's Cornet Band in this place, and it is hoped that the citizens will contribute liberally toward its reorganization. In consequence of the proposed members being working men, and no profit to them, it cannot be expected of them to go to the expense unassisted by others. Shepherdstown has long been noted for the amount of musical talent within its limits, and more especially for the excellent Brass Band she had for a number of years cherished. A good Band adds to the life and gaiety of a town and is often indispensable; so lend a helping hand and we will again have a Band of which we can boast, and not be behind some of our neighboring towns and villages in this respect.

—A meeting of the stockholders of Potomac Mills Mining and Manufacturing Company was held at Washington city on Monday evening last, Mr. Z. L. Barbour presiding. Mr. J. Collins, superintendent of the company, stated that the building at Shepherdstown were almost completed and ready for the machinery. All the necessary shops had been erected. The quarries are in the immediate vicinity, and coal and other necessary material at hand. What they need now was machinery for manufacturing barrels, and boats to carry the cement to Georgetown. He thought twenty-five thousand dollars was required to put the mills in successful operation. After much discussion as to the best way of raising the amount required, it was decided that \$25,000 of reserved stock, representing \$75,000, should be disposed of at 33 1/3, \$12,000 of which was subscribed before the meeting adjourned.—Messrs. Clagett, Barbour and Hanson were appointed a committee to dispose of stock, after which the meeting adjourned.

—The election in New Hampshire for Governor, Legislature and other officers will take place on the 10th of March. Great interest will attach to the result, as it will be the first State election of the year.

DR. C. T. RICHARDSON,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office at the Carter House,
CHARLESTOWN.
Special attention given to cases of OPERATIVE SURGERY.
December 24, 1867—6m.

CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—In the Senate, unimportant memorials and amendments to the bankrupt acts were indefinitely postponed. The Finance Committee were instructed to enquire into the expediency of affixing a penalty when Government officers disburse money without legal authority.

Mr. Conness said the resolution aimed at those whom the Senate rejected as unfit for positions, but we must not have on special missions to do nobody knew what and paid from the public funds.

The joint resolution to convey into the Treasury the proceeds of captured cotton and other property remaining in the hands of the Treasurer was resumed and elaborately discussed. The gross amount was thirty-four millions, of which twenty-four millions remain in the hands of the Treasurer as special agent. Ten millions have been paid to owners and expenses. The action of the Treasurer in disbursing the ten millions was seriously questioned. The matter was postponed.

The resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill to vacate the present illegal and unauthorized governments in the Southern States, and to provide provisional governments until reconstructed, was laid over.

The President was called on for information as to whether the bill abolishing the word white in the district laws and ordinances was considered a law by the Executive. After an executive session, Senate adjourned.

In the House, the Committee on Foreign Affairs reported a resolution requesting the President to interfere with Queen Victoria for Father McMahons release. The report maintains the innocence of McMahon, and the Committee would couple other names with the resolution, as the case was homonymous. The resolution was discussed broadly.

Mr. Orth maintaining that American views, regarding alienation and naturalization must be enforced by arms if necessary.

Mr. McCullum held that the nation that won't strive to protect those who swear allegiance to it, should be blotted out. He held that the ruling of the English courts, regarding expatriation, were monstrous.

Pending discussions, the morning hour expired and the resolutions were referred to the Senate amendments to the cotton tax were referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Missouri election case came up, occupying several hours, when Mr. Van Horn was declared to be entitled to the seat. Adjourned.

FROM WASHINGTON.

From a Washington dispatch to the Baltimore Sun, we copy the following:—

WASHINGTON, January 12.—The reconstruction committee yesterday resumed the injunction of secrecy as to its proceedings, and its members are permitted to give publicity to any or all of their proceedings.

Upon taking a vote on the new bill proposing Provisional Governors, giving General Grant power to appoint military commanders, etc., it was found that the republican members were not all satisfied with it. Mr. Stevens voted against the bill because it did not go far enough. Mr. Brooks, democrat, of course voted against it, being opposed to the bill in toto.

It is believed the measure will pass in the House with some modification, but the Senate is not expected to favor it, especially that section giving to the General-in-Chief power to remove military commanders. This is objected to by some republican Senators as of doubtful constitutionality. The bill is to be reported to-morrow.

Gen. Pope called upon the President yesterday to pay his respects. The interview was cordial and respectful. Gen. Pope facetiously thanked the President for relieving him from arduous and thankless labors, and the latter in the same spirit expressed his great satisfaction that he had been instrumental in doing the General a great favor.

The President yesterday signed Mr. Schenck's whiskey bill, and it is now a law. A telegram from New York to this city states that the price of fraud whiskey decreased yesterday fifty-five cents per gallon, and that whiskey could be had at \$1.20 a gallon, including certificate of payment of tax, etc.

VALLEY ITEMS.

From our